

Continuation of Free Breakfast Club Provision in Primary and Special Schools with the Introduction of a Charge for the Additional Childcare Element

How we use your personal information

The information you provide will only be used for the purposes of this consultation. To learn more about how your information is used, please visit the Council's Consultation Privacy Notice and Data Protection Pages.

Introduction / Purpose

The Council is facing significant financial challenges and is considering a range of options to contribute to addressing the shortfall in funding.

In RCTCBC, all 92 primary schools and 3 special schools provide a free breakfast club and all pupils, from Nursery to Year Six, are eligible to attend. The Council's Education Catering Services supply the staffing and the food to primary and special schools to facilitate access to free breakfast clubs.

The Council has initiated a consultation to introduce a fee of £1 per day for the extra half hour of additional childcare provision prior to the free breakfast club provision that is currently in place for children within our primary and special schools. Children who have been assessed as eligible for Free School Meals (not Universal Primary Free School Meals) would be exempt from any charge under the proposal. If implemented, all income generated would be re-invested back into schools' funding to offset cost pressures. The proposed charge would be introduced from the start of April 2024.

It is important to highlight that this additional childcare proposal would in no way affect pupils' access to breakfast club and a healthy breakfast free of charge, which would remain available for all pupils from Nursery to Year 6 in the 30-minute period before the start of the school day.

Breakfast club typically takes place between 8.30 a.m.-9.00 a.m. but timings do vary from setting to setting. The proposed £1 charge (rounded down to £60 per term) relates to a period of childcare, offered by some schools before the start of the school day (typically from 8.00 a.m.-8.30 a.m.) and prior to breakfast club. It would amount to an annual charge for parents/carers of £180.

The consultation is also seeking views in relation to other possible concessions to the £1 charge that could be introduced – such as families with more than one child using the provision.

1. Are you?:

- A service user of breakfast clubs, i.e. pupil, parent/carer
- A member of breakfast club staff
- A member of school staff
- A member of the Governing Body
- A member of the public
- Other

Please state:

2. On average, how often do you use the breakfast club provision?

- Once a week
- Twice a week
- Three times a week
- Four times a week
- Five times a week
- Ad-hoc, as and when it is needed

3. Why do you use the breakfast club provision?

- The free healthy breakfast
- The free Childcare
- The free healthy breakfast and free childcare
- Other

Please state:

4. Do you agree with the proposal to introduce a charge for the additional childcare element of breakfast club?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Comments

5. If you said yes to Question 4, Do you agree with the charge being set at £1 per day (rounded down to £60 per term) and implemented from April 2024?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

6. If you said yes to Question 4, What level of termly fee would you be willing to pay for the additional childcare element of breakfast club?

- £50
- £60
- £70
- £80
- Other

Please state

7. Do you agree that the Council should consider a cap on any charge for parents/carers?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

8. If you said yes to Question 7, At what level should the cap be introduced?

- More than One Child
- More than Two Children
- More than Three Children

9. If charging is introduced and you decide not to make use of the additional childcare element provision, would you continue to make use of the free breakfast club provision (typically offered 30 minutes before the start of the School day)?
- Yes
 No
 Don't know

10. How would the proposal impact upon you and / or your family?

11. Other Comments

Do you have any other comments or alternative options that you would like us to consider?

Equality Monitoring Questions

Rhondda Cynon Taf Council – Equality Monitoring Form

The Council is committed to the principle of equal opportunities and having a clear picture of the equality profile of our consultation respondents can help monitor the effectiveness of our equal opportunities policies and procedures. We conduct monitoring in order to identify gaps in access to our services, and make targeted changes where gaps are identified. Data is only used to improve services, and in reporting.

12. You are entirely free to decide whether or not to complete this form and there are no consequences of failing to do so. We do not intend on capturing any personal identifiable information through this form. Please be mindful of this in the responses you provide within the free text areas. In the instance where you do provide us with information about yourself or others, RCTCBC will ensure it will be processed in line with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018 and only used for monitoring and reporting purposes.

I do not wish to provide any of the information requested on this form, proceed to Question 26

13. **Age**

- 15 or under
 16-24
 25-34
 35-44
 45-54
 55-64
 65-74
 75+
 Prefer not to say

14. What is your postcode?

Postcode:

15. **Sex**

Are you

- Female
 Male
 Prefer not to say

If you prefer your own term, please provide this here:

16. **Gender Identity**

Do you identify as

- Non-binary
- Trans
- N/A
- Prefer not to say

If you prefer your own term, please provide this here:

17. **Sexual Orientation**

Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?

- Bisexual
- Gay man
- Gay woman / Lesbian
- Heterosexual / Straight
- Prefer not to say

If you prefer to use your own term, please provide this here:

18. **National Identity**

How would you describe your national identity?

- British
- Cornish
- English
- Irish
- Northern Irish
- Scottish
- Welsh
- Other
- Prefer not to say

Please describe

19. **Ethnicity**

How would you describe your ethnic origin?

- Arab
- Asian: British
- Asian or Asian British: Bangladeshi
- Asian or Asian British: Chinese
- Asian: Cornish
- Asian: English
- Asian or Asian British: Indian
- Asian: Irish
- Asian: Northern Irish
- Asian or Asian British: Pakistani
- Asian: Scottish
- Asian or Asian British: Other East Asian
- Asian or Asian British: Other South Asian
- Asian: Welsh
- Asian or Asian British: Other (please describe):
- Black: British
- Black or Black British: African
- Black or Black British: Caribbean
- Black: Cornish
- Black: English
- Black: Irish
- Black: Northern Irish
- Black: Scottish
- Black: Welsh
- Black, Black British or Black African: Other (please describe):
- English Gypsy
- Irish Gypsy
- Irish Traveller
- Scottish Gypsy
- Scottish Traveller
- Welsh Gypsy
- Mixed/Multiple: African & Caribbean
- Mixed/Multiple: Black African & White
- Mixed/Multiple: Black British & White
- Mixed/Multiple: Black Caribbean & White
- Mixed/Multiple: East Asian & White
- Mixed/Multiple: South Asian & White
- Mixed/Multiple: Other (please describe):
- Roma
- Sinti
- White: British
- White: Cornish
- White: English

19. **Ethnicity**

How would you describe your ethnic origin?

- White: Gypsy
- White: Irish
- White: Irish Traveller
- White: Northern Irish
- White: Scottish
- White: Welsh
- White: Other (please describe):
- Prefer not to say

If other Ethnic Group or if you would prefer to use your own definition, please specify:

20. **Disability**

Do you consider yourself to be disabled?

'The definition of disability as defined under the Equality Act (2010) is *'a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial or long term adverse effect on the ability to carry out day-to-day activities'*.

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

21. **Religion or Belief**

What is your religion or belief?

- Buddhist
- Christian (including Church of Wales, Catholic, Protestant and all other denominations)
- Hindu
- Jewish
- Muslim
- Non-religious (e.g. Atheist, Humanist etc.)
- Sikh
- Other
- Prefer not to say

If other Religion or Belief, or if you prefer to use your own definition, please provide this here:

22. **Caring Responsibilities**

Do you look after, or support family members, friends, neighbours or others because of either: a long term physical or mental condition/disability or problems related to old age?

- No
- Yes, 1-19 hours a week
- Yes, 20-49 hours a week
- Yes, 50 or more hours a week
- Prefer not to say

23. **Pregnancy and maternity**

Are you currently pregnant, or have you been pregnant within the last 12 months?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

24. **Have you taken (or are you currently taking) maternity leave in the last 12 months?**

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

25. **Veterans and Armed Forces**

Have you ever, or are you currently, serving in the Armed Forces?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

26. **Under the Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equality Duties, the Council has a legal duty to look at how its decisions impact on people because they may have particular characteristics.**

How would the proposals affect you because of your:

1. Sex 2. Age 3. Ethnicity 4. Disability 5. Sexuality 6. Religion / Belief 7. Gender identity 8. Relationship status 9. Pregnancy 10. Preferred language

Please insert your comments below:

27. As part of our Welsh Impact Assessment process, the Council has identified that there is a possibility of impacts on the Welsh Language. Please review the WIA and provide any comments if appropriate.

28. How do you feel the proposal could impact on opportunities for pupils and staff to use and promote the Welsh Language?

- Positively
 Negatively
 No impact
 Don't know

29. How could positive effects be increased, or negative effects be decreased?

30. Does the proposal, in any way, treat the Welsh Language less favourably than the English Language?

- Yes
 No
 Don't know

Thank you for taking the time to complete the above consultation.

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